

SEP 23 2005

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Signature

**Expedited Procedure Requested  
Under 37 C.F.R. §1.116**

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: RAO et al.	)	Examiner:	Daniel J. Jenkins
	)		
Application Number: 10/721,215	)	Group Art Unit:	1742
	)		
Filed: November 25, 2003	)	Confirmation No.:	5519
	)		
Docket No.: 00014DIV (3600-267-02)	)		

For: NITRIDED VALVE METALS AND PROCESSES FOR MAKING THE SAME

**AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL**

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

September 23, 2005

Sir:

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action dated May 25, 2005, for which the Examiner has set a three-month period for response. A Petition for a One-Month Extension of Time and the requisite fee are submitted herewith, thus making any response due on or before September 25, 2005.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 4 of this paper.